

From: "William Ruppert" <comerupp@silcon.com>
To: "Lauren Clyde" <LClyde@waterboards.ca.gov>
Date: 1/28/2009 3:34 PM
Subject: Our Regional Board Amendment

January 28, 2009

Dear Ms. Lauren Clyde,

We ask that our Regional Water Board not vote on their proposed Basin Plan Amendment until a number of issues are addressed first. We live in the Russian River area and have a lot of concern about this Amendment. Some of the serious concerns that have to be addressed first and added to the Amendment are:

- n The monitoring of treated sewage water quality should occur near the site and time of application to assure high water quality is maintained.
- n A maximum numerical amount must be defined for "incidental runoff".
- n Setbacks from creeks should be required for treated sewage water irrigation, with much greater setbacks in proximity to impaired creeks. The vineyards of Korbel (and others) go right up to the banks of the Russian River. A scandal.
- n No irrigation should be allowed on lawns that have been treated with pesticides, herbicides, soil amendments, and fertilizers.
- n The multiple violators of treated sewage water irrigation rules must not be allowed to irrigate with treated sewage water for at least a year, or cut off entirely.
- n It must include a re-opener clause for when new regulations are needed, as when new information about unregulated and other contaminants become available.

It is commendable that the state is promoting increased use of treated waste water for irrigation but we must have regulations that prevent the treated waste water from entering our waterways where people recreate and use as their drinking water source.

There is so much more that we can do in conservation, less use of our precious water. During the major draught In 1976, when we were living in San Francisco, two families together, three generations, and four kids in cloth diapers that had to be washed, water was rationed. We followed Senator Hiyakowa's admonition: "If it is yellow, let it mellow; if it is

brown, flush it down." Since that time, we only flush when needed, we take less frequent showers and, when we shower, we fill a pail until the water gets hot and use the pail of water to flush the toilet when necessary. We have low-water toilets. We have seen waterless toilets in Mexico and they should be used here. We do not water our lawn. We let it turn brown when it turns brown. We use plants that need very little watering, and so forth. Water is one of the most precious things we have. We can get along without a lot of things, but not without water. So please do not let the Amendment go forward without including the above listed additions.

Thank you,

Dorothy and William Ruppert

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